REMARKS

In the Office Action dated July 21, 2004, claims 2, 3, 5-10, 12-17, 21-25, 28, 29, 31, and 33-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 6,671,511 (Forssell); and claims 11, 20, 26, and 27 were rejected under § 103 over Forssell in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,594,238 (Wallentin).

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, 11, and 25-28 have been cancelled, without prejudice, to render the rejection of those claims moot.

Independent claim 14 has been amended to fix a minor typographical error at line 1 – the scope of claim 14 remains *unchanged*. Claim 14 recites a mobile station that has an interface to a wireless link and a control module to establish an *uplink* connection on the wireless link with a base station system. The mobile station also includes a delay element, where the control module is adapted to detect end of data transmission on the *uplink* connection and to wait a delay period provided by the delay element before starting a procedure to release the *uplink* connection.

In response to this argument, the present Office Action made the following statement:

> Forssell disclose [sic] the timer function in the mobile station (see col.8 lines 45-50 and col. 16 lines 36-40, 'a passive period starts' and 'maintain at least for a predetermined time' at a mobile station corresponding to 'the timer function in the mobile station').

7/21/2004 Office Action at 2.

These two cited passages of Forssell (col. 8, lines 45-50 and col. 16, lines 36-40) do not support the Office Action's contention that Forssell teaches implementation of a timer function in a mobile station. In column 7 of Forssell, a discussion of two alternative techniques regarding the termination of a temporary block flow (TBF) is provided. A first technique is that a network is informed at the end of an active period on whether a passive period follows the active period or if the connection can be released. Forssell, 7:40-43. This information that is provided to the network enables the network to determine whether a packet data channel can be assigned to other TBFs. Forssell, 7:43-45. The information provided indicates the number (N) of passive block periods so that the network may give the next N uplink sending permissions to other mobile stations.

Forssell, 9:59-63. In other words, according to this first technique, the mobile station sends information to the network regarding the number of passive block periods that will follow inactive periods. Using this technique, *no timer function* is required.

However, Forssell also notes, with respect to implementation in the *network* (*not* the mobile station), that the network may alternatively use a timer function for determining whether a passive period follows the active period or if the connection can be released. Forssell, 7:59-62. In this second technique, when a predetermined time of inactive data transfer has passed, the TBF is released by the network. Forssell, 7:62-63.

The discussion in column 7, summarized above, focuses on implementation in the network. The next column (column 8) of Forssell discusses implementation in a mobile station. As stated in column 8, "[t]he invention also applies to a mobile station for transferring a data flow by creating a connection on a packet radio service to a cellular telecommunications system, wherein the data flow comprises at least one active data transfer period, comprising means *for transferring information on whether after the active data transfer period* a passive period starts or whether the connection release is allowed." Forssell, 8:45-51. Note that this discussion of the "invention" as applied to a mobile station is directed only to the first technique that was described with respect to the network, namely transferring information to the network regarding a number of passive block periods that follow an active period. This particular "invention" feature described in column 8 of Forssell for the mobile station is the feature implemented in the mobile station to work with the network for the first technique. Although a timer function is expressly described for the network by Forssell, no such timer function is described for the mobile station.

In fact, a review of the Detailed Description section of Forssell supports Applicant's position that the timer function can only be implemented in the network, not in the mobile station. As described in column 11 of Forssell, a timer function for enabling the release of the *downlink* temporary block flow is provided. This timer function is implemented in the *network*. No discussion whatsoever is provided of a timer function implemented in the mobile station.

The other passage of Forssell cited by the Office Action, column 16, lines 36-40, is claim 13 of Forssell, which recites that "when releasing a temporary block flow in a first direction (uplink/downlink) of packet data transfer, a temporary block flow in the opposite data transfer direction is maintained at least for a predetermined time." However, claim 14 of the present application recites that the control module is adapted to detect end of data transmission on the *uplink* connection and to wait a delay period provided by the delay element before starting a procedure to release the *uplink* connection (*i.e.*, end of data transmission detection and release procedure are both for the *same* uplink connection). In contrast, claim 13 of Forssell teaches that upon release of a temporary block flow in a first direction, a temporary block flow in the *opposite* data transfer direction is maintained at least for a predetermined time. Claim 13 of Forssell clearly does not disclose the subject matter of claim 14.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14 is not anticipated by Forssell.

Independent claim 35 (unamended) is similarly not anticipated by Forssell.

Claim 8 has been amended to more clearly indicate that waiting of the predetermined time delay period is after end of data transmission on the *uplink* connection, and after the predetermined delay period, a procedure is started to release also the *uplink* connection. Claim 8 is thus allowable over Forssell for reasons similar to those of claim 14.

Independent claims 29 and 34 have also been amended to place such claims in condition for allowance for reasons similar to those of claim 14.

In view of the foregoing, all claims are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Withdrawal of the final rejection is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (NRT.0091US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-17-04

Dan C. Hu
Registration No. 40,025
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77024
(713) 468-8880 [Phone]
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]

Customer No. 21906